

WHAT'S *New*

in the Metropolitan Police Department



*A weekly update for residents, visitors,
and workers in the District of Columbia*

Friday, August 19, 2005

GANG INTERVENTION PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATES TWO YEARS, SHOWS RESULTS

Two years ago, DC's Gang Intervention Partnership was established to address the serious problem of crime and violence involving Latino gangs in the District. Two years later, the initiative is yielding some impressive results. Spearheaded by the MPDC and the Columbia Heights/Shaw Collaborative, the Partnership includes more than 16 government agencies and community-based organizations. The GIP follows a comprehensive, three-pronged approach to Latino gang violence: enforcement, intelligence gathering, and intervention and prevention activities. For example, the team responds to reports of "Skip Parties," which involve not just youth skipping school, but many times individuals conspiring to commit crimes, recruit new gang members, or engage in other illegal activities. Truants and missing children have been located, and in some cases weapons and narcotics have been recovered. The unit has also made it a priority to respond to all gang graffiti complaints. The intervention/prevention team members work in conjunction with the local faith community and others to systematically reduce organized gang activity that has negatively affected youth and young adults in DC. In addition to improving information sharing, the GIP has yielded some notable statistics: since the beginning of 2004, GIP officers have made more than 105 arrests, served 19 search warrants, broken up 10 skip parties, conducted seminars and training for both the community and law enforcement, and assisted detectives on a number of serious crimes. Most importantly, DC has not experienced a Latino gang-related homicide over the past two years.

- ① For more information about the Gang Intervention Partnership, contact Sgt. Juan Aguilar at (202) 576-8209, or via email: juan.aguilar@dc.gov

AS STUDENTS RETURN TO COLLEGE, THE MPDC STRESSES CAMPUS SAFETY

While DC's colleges and universities are among the city's safest communities, no campus is immune from crime. That is why the MPD has published a comprehensive "Campus Safety" guide containing safety tips and other important resources. Promoting safety on campus is the responsibility of students, faculty, staff, campus and MPDC officers, and other members of the campus community. An important part of everyone's education is learning how to be alert, use common sense, and prevent unnecessary threats to the safety of themselves and others. Most campus crimes occur when criminals are given the opportunity to commit them. By taking away the opportunity, students and others can help prevent crime before it occurs. This is especially true in the case of property crimes such as theft and burglary, which are among the most common of campus crimes. And when entire campuses pull together to reduce the opportunity for crime, they can significantly reduce the risk and enhance the safety of the entire community.

- ① For a detailed list of campus safety tips and resources, go to: http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1237,q,547564,mpdcNav_GID,1553,mpdcNav,|.asp
- ① Hard copies of the MPDC's Campus Safety booklet, as well as presentations on campus safety, are available from the MPDC's Community Outreach Section, by calling (202) 727-0783.

FOUR YEARS LATER, PHOTO RADAR CONTINUES TO SHOW POSITIVE RESULTS

Four years ago this summer, DC became the first jurisdiction east of the Mississippi River to implement an automated photo radar speeding reduction program. Four years later, photo radar continues to yield positive results in terms of traffic safety. Today, far fewer motorists are speeding aggressively than they were at the start of the program, and the average speeds of all motorists has declined substantially, providing important traffic calming especially in residential neighborhoods. When DC's photo radar program began in July 2001, nearly 1 in 3 motorists (approximately 31%) in photo radar zones were speeding not just above the posted speed limit, but above the higher threshold speed established for the photo radar program. In July 2004, by contrast, the rate of aggressive speeding had declined to about 1 in 27 motorists (3.7%). During the same time period, the average speed of all motorists has declined on all types of roadways. For example, on streets with a 25-mph speed limit, the average speed of all vehicles monitored by photo radar was 27.3 mph in July 2005 — down from 35.5 mph in July 2001. In 40-mph zones, the average motorist was traveling below the speed limit (36 mph) during July 2005; that compares with an average speed of 8 mph above the speed limit (48.6 mph) in July 2001. Perhaps most importantly, the number of traffic fatalities in which speeding was the primary factor has dropped sharply since implementation of the program, from 38 in 2001 to 17 in 2004.

MPDC SEEKS PROGRAM MANAGER FOR COMMUNITY POLICING OFFICE

The MPDC is currently accepting applications for a program manager in its Policing for Prevention Office. This civilian position focuses on fostering police-community partnerships in support of the MPDC's Policing for Prevention strategy. Among other responsibilities, the program manager participates in the development, maintenance and dissemination of information that represents successful police, community and joint strategies for addressing local neighborhood safety issues. The person also conducts analyses and assists with resolution of internal and external partnership issues related to the implementation of Policing for Prevention. In addition, the program manager creates and improves training materials that will advance the community policing skills and knowledge of department members. The professional position is part of the District's Management Supervisory Service; the pay range is \$64,086 to \$83,098 per year. The position closes on August 30.

NEWS & NOTES

July Court Reports. Each month, the Community Prosecution staff of the US Attorney's Office publishes a report containing a summary of significant cases in each police district that were prosecuted during the previous month. These Court Reports discuss crimes that occurred in DC neighborhoods and provide updates on the criminal convictions of those who commit these crimes. Access the reports for July, June and May at http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc/Community_Prosecution/Court_Reports/index.html.

Suspect Sought in Southeast Robbery. Crime Solvers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest and indictment in a recent armed robbery of a Murray's store on Alabama Avenue, SE. Details, including photos of the suspect, are at <http://app.mpd.cdc.gov/newsroom/newsroom.asp?sid=117000>.

- ① For detailed information on the MPDC's photo radar program, visit:

http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1240,q,547970,mpdcNav_GID,1552,mpdcNav,|.asp

- ① The District's highly successful red-light intersection safety camera program just marked its sixth year, having reduced red-light running by more than 61 percent at intersections equipped with cameras. Details at:

http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1240,q,547886,mpdcNav_GID,1552,mpdcNav,|.asp

- ① For complete details, including information on how to apply, click on:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1230,q,557896.asp>

- ① For background information on the MPDC's community policing strategy, go to:

http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,3,q,548411,mpdcNav_GID,1523,mpdcNav,|.asp

DATA BOX

Homicides	as of 8/19/05
♦ 2005: 119	
♦ 2004: 119	
♦ % Change: Unch.	
♦ Closure Rate: 56.3% (67 closures)	
Adult Arrests	week end. 8/13/05
♦ Total: 1,032	
♦ Drugs: 191	
♦ Weapons: 19	
♦ Motor Vehicle Theft: 9	
♦ Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 48	
Juvenile Activity	week end. 8/13/05
♦ Arrests: 68	
♦ Curfew Violations: 142	
♦ Truants: 0	
Firearm Recoveries	as of 8/17/05
♦ August: 97	
♦ 2005 Total: 1,484	
Traffic Fatalities	as of 8/19/05
♦ 2005: 25	
♦ 2004: 34	
♦ % Change: --26.5%	

Information, ideas, or comments about this service? Send an e-mail to **KEVIN MORISON**, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov. Would you like to have this information e-mailed to you? Just go to our Website and register with **Crimereports.com**.

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